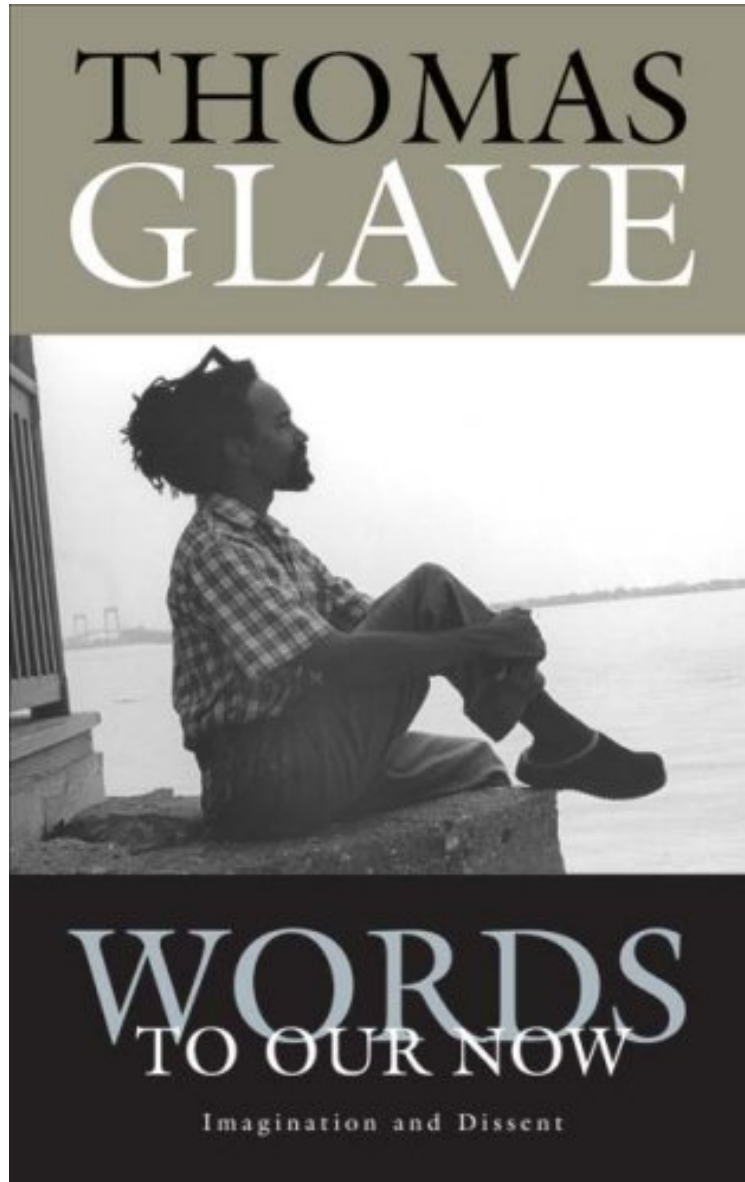


[Library ebook] Words to Our Now: Imagination and Dissent

Words to Our Now: Imagination and Dissent

Thomas Glave

*ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#2146279 in Books Univ Of Minnesota Press 2005-11-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.50 x .80 x 5.381, .65 #File Name: 0816646805216 pages | File size: 48.Mb

Thomas Glave : Words to Our Now: Imagination and Dissent before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Words to Our Now: Imagination and Dissent:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A stylistically innovative essay collection
By A Room With A Review
WORDS TO OUR NOW is a stylistically innovative, powerfully written collection. Sometimes a writer's exploratory prose style marks his literary difference. Glave's prose has a recursive effect as if his language requires

both writing and re-writing--incessant, jewel-like, ornate construction--to be adequately heard. To my ear, Glave's stylizations seem like explorations of expository "beauty". The essays seem to be asking how can the lyrical, iridescent syntax and diction counter and augment the often painful concepts of LGBT and black liberation that the essays take on? Extreme rhetorical stylization like this is so different that the usual literary fare that some readers may give it pause. But the style does not diminish the substance of Glave's meaning or the excellence of many of these essays.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Essential Reading for Gay Black Men By Customer This is by far the hardest book I've had to read (next to *Thereafter Johnnie...* which I found due to this book). I started and stopped several times and eventually had to read it in "blocks" with chapters of other books interspersed between. HOWEVER this is also one of the most rewarding books I have ever read. Glave has a unique style of prose that, while difficult, is beautiful and enriching in drawing you into his essays and works of fiction. It touches on so many topics important to the community from masculinity to homophobia to feminism and important works of literature. I can't say it enough that this is a tough read. But if you can just stick with it it's so rewarding, enlightening and rewarding that it sits on my shelf with Sun Tzu's *THE ART OF WAR*, Kahlil Gibran's *THE PROPHET*, and Red Pine's translation of *THE HEART SUTRA*

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. an excess of lyricism for its own sake By John Thomas Glave seems like a righteous guy, a gay Jamaican academic who was instrumental in setting up J-FLAG, the gay lesbian Jamaican rights group; a thinking human being concerned with injustice based on skin-colour, gender and sexuality; and someone deeply reflective on the multivalent identities of the immigrant. So I was set up to like this book. But on the whole I didn't. It's a collection of essays, but some (like the one reflecting on the resurgence of gung-ho American patriotism following 9/11) are simply dated should have been excluded. Others are cute but slight nostalgia pieces about Glave's childhood in the States, or romances about his Jamaican heritage. There are stream-of-narrative poetic reflections on obscure novels - indeed stream-of-consciousness reflections on lots of things. These always feature comparisons to the sea, go on for pages pages without illuminating anything - except that Thomas Glave loves the sea is a sensitive soul. I can read enjoy quite difficult demanding prose, but I found myself skimming paragraph after paragraph of this book to try to get to the point. The academic stuff's often not very academic - for instance the chapter about trying to imagine a black gay Monica Lewinski (a notion which apparently made his students' chins hit the floor) - and the personal stuff is buried under a slurry of lyricism. The most interesting parts of this book are those which are acute about the nuances of being a migrant with dual nationality - but to my mind even these tend to creak under the weight of poetical 'fine writing' larded on top of them. If you enjoy a consciousness displaying its own sensitivity in a poetical vein then perhaps you'll love this book. I'm afraid I just find it tiring.

In these lyrical and powerful essays, Thomas Glave draws on his experiences as a politically committed, gay Jamaican American to deliver a condemnation of the prejudices, hatreds, and inhumanities that persist in the United States and elsewhere. Exposing the hypocrisies of liberal multiculturalism, Glave offers instead a politics of heterogeneity in which difference informs the theory and practice of democracy. At the same time, he experiments with language to provide a model of creative writing as a tool for social change. From the death of black gay poet Essex Hemphill to the revelations of abuse at Abu Ghraib, Glave puts forth an ethical understanding of human rights to make vital connections across nations, races, genders, and sexualities. Thomas Glave is assistant professor of English at SUNY Binghamton. He is author of *Whose Song?* and *Other Stories*.

About the Author Thomas Glave is assistant professor of English at SUNY Binghamton. He is author of *Whose Song?* and *Other Stories*.